

DUTCH OCCUPATION OF THE DINDINGS, &c.

SINCE the publication of the last number of the Journal, certain documents have been found among the records in Malacca, which throw further light on the history of the Dutch occupation of stations in Pulau Pangkor, or Dinding, and on the Pêrak river. The following is a brief *précis* of the principal of these :—

Letter from the Governor-General and the Board of Administration of the United East India Company, dated 1st October, 1661.

Pulau Dinding is mentioned for the first time in an order to cut there 200 pieces of a kind of red-wood to be sent to "Patria" (Holland).

Letter from the same, dated 5th August, 1670.

Order to take possession of Pulau Dinding and to build there a stronghold of wood.

Letter from the same, dated 31st October, 1670.

Order that the garrison on Pulau Dinding shall consist of 1 Sergeant, 3 Soldiers and 3 Sailors, and shall belong to the garrison of Pêrak.

Letter from the same, dated 24th June, 1693.

Order that no garrison shall be posted again at Pulau Dinding since the massacre by Panglima COELOP, but that a stone pillar is to be erected there having on one side, the arms of the United East India Company, and, on the other, those of the United Provinces.

Letter dated 8th August, 1695.

Order to re-erect the prostrate pillar and to clean it yearly and keep it in repair.

Letter dated 24th June, 1721.

Repetition of the same order.

Letter dated 20th November, 1745.—Governor-General GUSTRAAF WILLEM, BARON VAN IMHOFF.

Order to build again a small fort at Pulau Dinding and to put there a garrison of 30 European and the same number of Native soldiers, but *no Bugis*.

Letter dated 18th October, 1748.—Governor-General GUSTRAAF WILLEM, Baron VAN IMHOFF.

Order to remove the garrison again on account of the insalubrity of the place and to send them to Pêrak.

I am able too, from the same source, to fix the date of the re-establishment of the post on the Pêrak river, which I was unable to do in the paper published in the last number (see “The Dutch in Pêrak,” Journal, No. 10, p. 245). Under the date, October 22nd, 1746, it is stated that the under-factor, Mr. ARY VERBRUGGE is sent to Pêrak on a special mission to find out if the King will allow the East India Company to again erect a fort in his country and if he will enter into a contract to deliver all tin to the Company.

The mission was, no doubt, successful, for the records mention the agreement entered into with the King of Pêrak dated the 25th July, 1747, by which he undertakes to deliver all the tin produced in his country to the East India Company exclusively at the rate of 26 ducatoons (1 ducatoon * = 5s. 3d.) per *bhara* of 375 lbs., besides two Spanish dollars for duty, and grants permission to the Dutch to build a fort anywhere at the mouth of the river and to require all vessels to call there for the purpose of being examined by the garrison.

This is, of course, the engagement mentioned in the Malay manuscript as having been concluded in the reign of Sultan MOZAFAR SHAH, (see Journal, No. 10, p. 258).

The list of Dutch *Opperhoofden* in Pêrak (p. 268A) taken from VALENTYN may be added to as follows :—

1661—1664 ADRIAEN LUCASSOON.

1664—1668 JOHANNES BRAKEL.

1668—(?) ADRIAEN VAN DER WALLE.

W. E. M.

Malacca, 28th August, 1883.

* Old pillar-dollars, which are carefully preserved by some of the old inhabitants in Perak, are still called there *ringgit jukatân*. (*ducatoon*).